UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/1992/108
30 July 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Substantive session of 1992
29 June-31 July 1992
Agenda item 11

REGIONAL COOPERATION

Report of the Economic Committee

1. The Economic Committee considered the question of regional cooperation (agenda item 11) at its 5th, 6th, 10th, 13th and 16th meetings, on 1, 2, 21, 23 and 28 July 1992. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Letter dated 30 June 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the Summit Declaration on Black Sea Economic Cooperation, signed at Istanbul by the heads of State or Government of Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine on 25 June 1992 (A/47/305-E/1992/96);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (E/1992/14 and Add.1 (Parts I and II));

(c) Summary of the economic survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1991 (E/1992/19);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Second report on the cost-benefit of office accommodation at ECLAC, Port of Spain (Trinidad and Tobago)" and the Secretary-General's comments thereon (E/1992/21 and Add.1);

(e) Summary of the economic and social survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1991 (E/1992/39);

(f) Summary of the survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1991-1992 (E/1992/42);

(g) Summary of the economic survey of Europe in 1991-1992 (E/1992/45);

(h) Summary of the survey of economic and social developments in the region of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, 1991 (E/1992/52);

(i) Report of the Secretary-General on the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994 (E/1992/61 and Add.1);

(j) Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation (E/1992/65);

(k) Note by the Secretary-General on the sixteenth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (E/1992/87);

(l) Note by the Secretariat on the admission of new members to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and amendment of the terms of reference of the Commission (E/1992/88);

(m) Letter dated 2 July 1992 from the Chairman of the Economic Commission for Europe to the President of the Economic and Social Council (E/1992/101 and Corr.1).

2. At the 5th and 6th meetings, on 1 and 2 July, the Committee held a general discussion on the item.

3. At the 5th meeting, on 1 July, it heard introductory statements by the Executive Secretaries of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, the Economic Commission for Europe and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, who introduced the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation.

4. Also at the 5th meeting, the Acting Controller of the United Nations made a statement regarding recommendations of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, contained in the report of the Secretary-General.

5. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Economic Community), Poland, Bahrain, the Russian Federation, Egypt and Yugoslavia and the observers for Jordan and Mongolia.

6. At the 6th meeting, on 2 July, statements were made by the representatives of Austria, China, Romania, Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77), Benin, Belarus, Chile, Japan, Bangladesh, Trinidad and Tobago and Australia and the observers for Oman, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yemen.

Strengthening the role of the regional commissions

7. At the 10th meeting, on 21 July, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (E/1992/C.1/L.2) entitled "Strengthening the role of the regional commissions", which read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Recalling General Assembly resolutions 45/264 of 13 May 1991 and 46/235 of 13 April 1992 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields and recalling also General Assembly resolution 46/145 of 17 December 1991 on regional economic integration among developing countries and other relevant General Assembly resolutions,

"Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation, 1/

"Bearing in mind that regional economic integration is important in expanding trade and investment, particularly in developing countries, and that regional economic integration has the potential to strengthen global economic and social development,

"1. Urges the regional commissions to strengthen their role in assisting developing countries to promote accelerated development through an integrated approach;

"2. Recommends that, when preparing regional technical cooperation programmes, the regional commissions, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and other relevant United Nations bodies, coordinate their work, with the aim of achieving a better and more focused use of available resources, greater coherence of action and, therefore, greater and more concentrated impact;

"3. Also recommends that the regional commissions participate fully in the programme budget process at United Nations Headquarters;

"4. Urges that priority setting for programming should take fully into account the views of the membership;

"5. Also urges the regional commissions, at the request of Member States, together with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with the Cartagena commitment, 2/ to

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1/ E/1992/65.

2/ TD(VIII)/Misc.4.

contribute to the identification, preparation and implementation of specific projects to facilitate economic integration and to submit them to bilateral donors, regional development banks and financial institutions for their consideration;

"6. Requests each regional commission, as appropriate, to study the possibility of assisting Member States to participate fully and effectively at the sessions of the regional commissions;

"7. Stresses the role and important contribution of the regional commissions, within their mandates, in the follow-up and implementation of the decisions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, in particular those contained in Agenda 21;

"8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council at its substantive session of 1993 on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution."

8. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Selim Yenel (Turkey), introduced a draft resolution (E/1992/C.1/L.20), submitted on the basis of the informal consultations held on draft resolution E/1992/C.1/L.2.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution E/1992/C.1/L.20 (see para. 42 below, draft resolution I).

10. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution E/1992/C.1/L.20, draft resolution E/1992/C.1/L.2 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, 1991-2000

11. At the 10th meeting, on 21 July, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (E/1992/C.1/L.3) entitled "Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1991-2000)", which read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/237 of 22 December 1989, in which the Assembly proclaimed the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa for the years 1991-2000, and its decision 46/458 of 20 December 1991 on the programme for the Second Decade,

"Recalling also General Assembly resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, in which the Assembly adopted the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, which identifies the Second Decade as a major programme for African regional economic integration,

"Further recalling its resolution 1991/81 of 26 July 1991 on the Second Decade,

"Stressing the need to integrate the programme for the Second Decade into the overall framework of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,

"Further recalling the relevant provisions of Agenda 21, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992, 3/

"Considering resolution GC.4/8 of 22 November 1991 of the fourth General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, in which the general conference adopted the programme for the Second Decade as one of the top priority programmes of that organization and recommended its adoption by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1992,

"Considering also resolution 739 (XXVII) of 24 April 1992 of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa, in which the Conference adopted the programme for the Second Decade, and decision 1 (XXVII) of 24 April 1992, in which the Conference recommended the adoption of the programme by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1992, and the provision to the Economic Commission for Africa of adequate resources to enable it to support the African countries and subregional organizations for the implementation of their programmes for the Second Decade,

"Cognizant of the appeal to the General Assembly to adopt at its forty-seventh session the programme for the Second Decade made by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in resolution AHG/CM/Res.1399 (LVI) of 1 July 1992, in which the Assembly also endorsed the programme,

"1. Endorses the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, including the national, subregional and regional components; 4/

"2. Recommends that the General Assembly adopt the programme for the Second Decade at its forty-seventh session;

"3. Recommends that the General Assembly adjust the period for the programme set in its resolution 44/237 to cover the years 1993-2002;

3/ A/CONF.151/26, to be issued.

4/ E/1992/14/Add.1 (Parts I and II).

"4. Recommends also that the General Assembly urge the African countries, financial institutions and United Nations specialized agencies to adopt an integrated approach to the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade, taking full account of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s; 5/

"5. Recommends further that the General Assembly urge the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, the institutions and agencies of the United Nations system, and the African States and subregional and regional organizations to integrate the relevant provisions of Agenda 21, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, in the implementation of the Second Decade;

"6. Recommends further that the General Assembly urge the industrialized countries, the international financial institutions, particularly the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the African Development Bank Group, and the United Nations Development Programme and bilateral development finance institutions to increase substantially their contributions to the industrial sector in Africa so as to ensure successful implementation of the Second Decade;

"7. Recommends also that the General Assembly provide the Economic Commission for Africa with adequate resources to enable it to support the African countries and subregional organizations more effectively for the implementation of their programmes for the Second Decade."

12. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Selim Yenel (Turkey), introduced a draft resolution (E/1992/C.1/L.17), submitted on the basis of the informal consultations held on draft resolution E/1992/C.1/L.3.

13. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution E/1992/C.1/L.17 (see para. 42 below, draft resolution II).

14. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution E/1992/C.1/L.17, draft resolution E/1992/C.1/L.3 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar

15. At the 13th meeting, on 23 July, the representative of Morocco, on behalf of Morocco and Spain, introduced a draft resolution (E/1992/C.1/L.6) entitled "Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar". Subsequently, France, Greece and Italy joined in sponsoring the draft resolution. In introducing the draft resolution, the representative of Morocco orally revised it as follows:

5/ General Assembly resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

(a) In the third preambular paragraph, the words "most of the" were inserted before the words "financial resources";

(b) In the operative paragraph, the words "the responsibilities mandated in" were replaced by the words "the evaluation report requested by".

The draft resolution, as orally revised, read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Recalling its resolution 1991/74 of 26 July 1991 and other relevant resolutions concerning the Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar and the activities that the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe were requested to carry out regarding the preparation of an evaluation report on the studies relating to the project in the period 1982-1993 for submission to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1993,

"Conscious of the contribution of the project to transport development and to physical integration at the regional and interregional levels,

"Noting that resolution 1991/74 does not impose any financial burden on the budgets of the two Commissions concerned, since the Governments of Morocco and Spain are making available most of the financial resources needed to perform the activities mandated in the resolution,

"Bearing in mind the necessary involvement of the experts from the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe in coordinating the evaluation process requested in the resolution,

"Recalling that in resolution 1991/74 the Council called upon the Secretary-General to allocate as far as possible sufficient resources to the two Commissions, within existing priorities, for the preparation of the above-mentioned evaluation report,

"Noting that the Secretary-General has not been able to allocate the necessary resources from within existing appropriations,

"Requests the Secretary-General to provide the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe, through the contingency fund, with the necessary budgetary resources to enable them to carry out effectively and efficiently the evaluation report requested in resolution 1991/74."

16. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Selim Yenel (Turkey), introduced a draft resolution (E/1992/C.1/L.16), submitted on the basis of the informal consultations held on draft resolution E/1992/C.1/L.6.

17. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution E/1992/C.1/L.16 (see para. 42 below, draft resolution III).

18. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution E/1992/C.1/L.16, draft resolution E/1992/C.1/L.6 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

Admission of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan as members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

19. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July 1992, the Committee had before it a draft resolution (E/1992/C.1/L.12) entitled "Admission of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan as members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific", submitted by the Chairman.

20. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution (see para. 42 below, draft resolution IV).

Recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation

21. Chapter I, section A, of the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation (E/1992/65) contained 12 recommendations for action by the Council.

22. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Vice-Chairman, Mr. Selim Yenel (Turkey), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the recommendations contained in the report.

Admission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as a member of the Commission

23. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Committee adopted the draft resolution entitled "Admission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as a member of the Commission" (see E/1992/65, para. 1), recommended by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (see para. 42 below, draft resolution V).

Admission of the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands as members of the Commission

24. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Committee adopted the draft resolution entitled "Admission of the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands as members of the Commission" (see E/1992/65, para. 1), recommended by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (see para. 42 below, draft resolution VI).

Admission of French Polynesia and New Caledonia as associate members of the Commission

25. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Committee adopted the draft resolution entitled "Admission of French Polynesia and New Caledonia as associate members of the Commission" (see E/1992/65, para. 1), recommended by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (see para. 42 below, draft resolution VII).

Admission of Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan as members of the Commission

26. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Committee adopted the draft resolution entitled "Admission of Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan as members of the Commission" (see E/1992/65, para. 1), recommended by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (see para. 42 below, draft resolution VIII).

Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002

27. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Committee decided to endorse resolution 48/3, entitled "Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002" (see E/1992/65, para. 2), adopted by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (see para. 43 below, draft decision I).

Restructuring the conference structure of the Commission

28. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Committee had before it resolution 48/2 entitled "Restructuring the conference structure of the Commission" (see E/1992/65, para. 3), adopted by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

29. At the 16th meeting, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to approve the resolution, which was to be implemented in conformity with the administrative, financial and programme planning regulations and rules of the United Nations (see para. 43 below, draft decision II).

Venue of the twenty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

30. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Committee decided to approve the recommendation (see E/1992/65, para. 4) that the twenty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean be held at Cartagena, Colombia, in 1994 (see para. 43 below, draft decision III).

Venue of the twenty-eighth session of the Economic Commission for Africa and the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of the Commission

31. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Committee decided to approve the recommendation (see E/1992/65, para. 5) that the twenty-eighth session of the Economic Commission for Africa and the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of the Commission be held at Lusaka, in April 1993 (see para. 43 below, draft decision IV).

Strengthening the Economic Commission for Africa to face Africa's development challenges in the 1990s

32. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July 1992, the Committee adopted the draft resolution entitled "Strengthening the Economic Commission for Africa to face Africa's development challenges in the 1990s" recommended by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa (see para. 42 below, draft resolution IX).

Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields: strengthening the role and functions of the Economic Commission for Africa

33. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July 1992, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields: strengthening the role and functions of the regional commissions", recommended by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa.

34. At the same meeting, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Selim Yenel (Turkey), informed the Committee that, as a result of informal consultations held on the draft resolution, it had been agreed to amend the title by replacing the words "regional commissions" by the words "Economic Commission for Africa".

35. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution, as orally amended (see para. 42 below, draft resolution X).

Industrial development in Africa

36. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Committee had before it a draft decision entitled "Industrial development in Africa" (see E/1992/65, para. 6), recommended by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa.

37. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution E/1992/C.1/L.17 entitled "Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, 1991-2000" (see para. 13 above), the Committee decided to take note of the draft decision (see para. 43 below, draft decision V).

Implementation of the United Nations Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

38. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Committee had before it a draft decision entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa" (see E/1992/65, para. 6), recommended by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa.

39. At the same meeting, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Yenel (Turkey), informed the Committee that, as a result of informal consultations held on the draft decision, it had been agreed to replace operative paragraph 2, which had read:

> "Requests the General Assembly to provide the Economic Commission for Africa with the necessary budgetary resources to enable it effectively and efficiently to carry out all the responsibilities and additional activities mandated to it in General Assembly decision 46/456, as lead agency and coordinator of the programme of the Second Decade",

by the following text:

> "Affirms its resolution 1991/83 of 26 July 1991, by which the Council invited the General Assembly to provide the Economic Commission for Africa with the necessary regular budgetary resources to enable it to carry out its responsibilities as the lead agency for the Second Decade effectively and efficiently".

40. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft decision, as orally amended (see para. 43 below, draft decision VI).

Other proposals

Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of regional cooperation

41. At the 16th meeting, on 28 July, the Committee decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it take note of the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (E/1992/14 and Add.1 (Parts I and II));

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Second report on the cost-benefit of office accommodation at ECLAC, Port of Spain (Trinidad and Tobago)" and the Secretary-General's comments thereon (E/1992/21 and Add.1);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994 (E/1992/61 and Add.1);

(d) Letter dated 2 July 1992 from the Chairman of the Economic Commission for Europe to the President of the Economic and Social Council (E/1992/101 and Corr.1);

(see para. 43 below, draft decision VII).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

42. The Economic Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Strengthening the role of the regional commissions

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 45/264 of 13 May 1991 and 46/235 of 13 April 1992 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields and recalling also General Assembly resolution 46/145 of 17 December 1991 on regional economic integration among developing countries and other relevant General Assembly resolutions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation, including his views on the role of the regional commissions within an integrated approach of the United Nations system, 6/

Bearing in mind that regional economic integration is important in expanding trade and investment, particularly in developing countries, and that regional economic integration has the potential to strengthen global economic and social development,

1. Urges the regional commissions to take steps to enable them fully to play their role in assisting their member States, in particular developing countries, to promote accelerated and sustainable development through an integrated approach;

2. Recommends that, when preparing regional technical cooperation programmes, all relevant bodies of the United Nations development system coordinate their work with the regional commissions with the aim of achieving a better and more focused use of available resources, greater coherence of action and, therefore, greater and more concentrated impact;

3. Also recommends that the regional commissions participate fully in the programme budget process at United Nations Headquarters;

6/ E/1992/65.

4. Urges that priority setting for programming should take fully into account the views of the membership;

5. Also urges the regional commissions, at the request of Member States, together with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with the Cartagena commitment, 7/ to contribute to the identification, preparation and implementation of specific projects to facilitate economic integration and to submit them to bilateral donors, regional economic integration organizations, regional development banks and financial institutions for their consideration;

6. Requests each regional commission, to study the possibility of assisting Member States, as appropriate, to participate fully and effectively at the sessions of the regional commissions;

7. Stresses the role and important contribution of the regional commissions, within their mandates, in the follow-up and implementation of the decisions adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, in particular those contained in Agenda 21;

8. Stresses further the importance of the regional commissions being part of the continued reform process in the economic and social fields, bearing in mind General Assembly resolutions 45/264 and 46/235;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council at its substantive session of 1993 on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, 1991-2000

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/237 of 22 December 1989, in which the Assembly proclaimed the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa for the years 1991-2000, and its decision 46/458 of 20 December 1991 on the programme for the Second Decade,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, in which the Assembly adopted the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, which identifies the Second Decade as a major programme for African regional economic integration,

Further recalling its resolution 1991/81 of 26 July 1991 on the Second Decade,

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7/ TD(VIII)/Misc.4.

Stressing the need to integrate the programme for the Second Decade into the overall framework of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, in particular, the commitment of African countries and the international community to promote domestic and foreign direct investment in Africa, as reflected in the relevant paragraphs of the new Agenda,

Further recalling the relevant provisions of Agenda 21, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992, 8/

Considering resolution GC.4/8 of 22 November 1991 of the fourth General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, in which the General Conference adopted the programme for the Second Decade as one of the top priority programmes of that organization and recommended its adoption by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1992,

Considering also resolution 739 (XXVII) of 24 April 1992 of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa, in which the Conference adopted the programme for the Second Decade, and decision 1 (XXVII) of 24 April 1992, in which the Conference of Ministers recommended the adoption of the programme by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1992, and the provision to the Economic Commission for Africa of adequate resources to enable it to support the African countries and subregional organizations for the implementation of their programmes for the Second Decade,

Cognizant of the appeal to the General Assembly to adopt at its forty-seventh session the programme for the Second Decade, made by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in resolution AHG/CM/Res.1399 (LVI) of 1 July 1992, in which the Assembly also endorsed the programme,

1. Endorses the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, including the national, subregional and regional components; 9/

2. Recommends that the General Assembly adopt the programme for the Second Decade at its forty-seventh session;

3. Recommends that the General Assembly adjust the period for the programme for the Second Decade, set in its resolution 44/237, to cover the years 1993-2002;

8/ A/CONF.151/26, to be issued.

9/ E/1992/14/Add.1 (Parts I and II).

4. Takes note of efforts already undertaken in Africa to establish an enabling environment to attract domestic and foreign investment, calls for further efforts in this regard and urges the international community to take the necesssary steps to encourage direct foreign investment and support the policy changes undertaken in African countries;

5. Recommends that the General Assembly urge the African countries, financial institutions and United Nations specialized agencies to adopt an integrated approach to the implementation of the programme for the Second Decade, taking full account of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s; 10/

6. Recommends also that the General Assembly urge the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, the institutions and agencies of the United Nations system, and the African States and subregional and regional organizations to integrate the relevant provisions of Agenda 21, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, in the implementation of the Second Decade;

7. Appeals to the international community, particularly bilateral and multilateral funding institutions, to increase significantly their contributions to the industrial sector in African countries so as to ensure successful and sustained implementation of the programme for the Second Decade;

8. Urges international financial institutions, in particular the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the African Development Bank, to ensure full support for the programme for the Second Decade and effective implementation of that programme at the national and subregional levels;

9. Reiterates its recommendations that the General Assembly provide the Economic Commission for Africa with adequate resources to enable it to assist African countries and organizations effectively in the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1991/74 of 26 July 1991 and other relevant resolutions concerning the Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar and the activities that the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe were requested to carry out regarding the

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10/ General Assembly resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

preparation of an evaluation report on the studies relating to the project in the period 1982-1993 for submission to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1993,

Conscious of the contribution of the project to transport development and to physical integration at the regional and interregional levels,

Noting that Council resolution 1991/74 does not impose any financial burden on the budgets of the two Commissions concerned, since the Governments of Morocco and Spain are making available most of the financial resources needed to perform the activities mandated in the resolution,

Bearing in mind the necessary involvement of the experts from the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe in coordinating the evaluation process requested in the resolution,

Recalling that in resolution 1991/74 the Council called upon the Secretary-General to allocate as far as possible sufficient resources to the two Commissions, within existing priorities, for the preparation of the above-mentioned evaluation report,

Noting that the Secretary-General has not been able to allocate the necessary resources from within existing appropriations,

Requests the Secretary-General, taking account of relevant priorities, to provide the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe, within existing resources for the relevant sections of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, with the necessary budgetary resources to enable them to prepare effectively and efficiently the evaluation report requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1991/74.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Admission of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan as members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of the note by the Secretariat on the admission of new members to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and amendment of the terms of reference of the Commission, 11/

Noting that members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific have agreed to the inclusion of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan in the geographical scope of the Commission and their admission as members of the Commission,

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11/ E/1992/88.

1. Recommends that Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan be included in the geographical scope of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and be admitted as members of the Commission;

2. Decides to amend paragraphs 2 and 3 of the terms of reference of the Commission accordingly.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

Admission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as a member of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has become a member of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in accordance with paragraph 3 of the terms of reference of the Commission,

Decides to amend paragraph 3 of the terms of reference of the Commission accordingly.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

Admission of the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands as members of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting that the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands have become members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in accordance with paragraph 3 of the terms of reference of the Commission,

Decides to amend paragraphs 3 and 4 of the terms of reference of the Commission accordingly.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VII

Admission of French Polynesia and New Caledonia as associate members of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting that French Polynesia and New Caledonia have become associate members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in accordance with paragraph 5 of the terms of reference of the Commission,

Decides to amend paragraphs 2 and 4 of the terms of reference of the Commission accordingly.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VIII

Admission of Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan as members of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting that the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific has recommended the inclusion of Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan in the geographical scope of the Commission and their admission as members of the Commission,

Approves the recommendation of the Commission that Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan be included in the geographical scope of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and be admitted as members of the Commission,

Decides to amend paragraphs 2 and 3 of the terms of reference of the Commission accordingly.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IX

Strengthening the Economic Commission for Africa to face Africa's development challenges in the 1990s

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the terms of reference of the Commission as adopted by resolution 671 (XXV) of the Economic and Social Council of 29 April 1958 and amended by resolution 974 D.I (XXXVI) of July 1963, resolution 1343 (XLV) of 18 July 1968 and resolution 1978/68 of 4 August 1978,

Recalling further the various resolutions that have implications on the mandate and operations of the Commission, including, in particular, General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, and Assembly resolutions 33/202 of 29 January 1979 and 44/211 of 21 December 1989,

Noting with appreciation the endorsement by the Economic and Social Council of the ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 718 (XXVI) on the revitalization of the mandate and operational framework of the regional commission for Africa,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolutions 45/177 of 19 December 1990, 45/264 of 13 May 1991 and 46/235 of 13 April 1992 on the restructuring and

revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, in which the regional commissions should be enabled fully to play their role under the authority of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, and those located in developing countries strengthened in the context of the overall objectives of the ongoing restructuring and the revitalization process,

Reiterating the validity of the general orientation of the work programme of the Commission as outlined in the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, including the identified individual subprogrammes,

Convinced that the many and important changes that are taking place in the member States of the Commission, the international environment as well as in the United Nations system as a whole will necessitate new approaches by the Commission in carrying out its mandate and new relationships with its constituency and partners, with a view to increasing its impacts,

Having examined the in-depth analysis made by the Acting Executive Secretary of ECA as contained in document E/ECA/CM.18/4 entitled "The Economic Commission for Africa in the 1990s: a policy and management framework for facing Africa's development challenges",

1. Congratulates the Acting Executive Secretary of the Commission for the initiative he took to establish a Task Force to review and appraise the policy orientation, programmes and management capacity of ECA and for the excellent analysis of the pertinent issues and useful and innovative proposals he has made;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to ensure that there is a clear and concrete balance between the research and operational activities of the ECA secretariat and sharply focus all such activities of the Commission on the specific realities and characteristics of the African region, and on individual subregions;

3. Also requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to ensure that its activities are fully grounded in sound data and information systems, through the strengthening of the Pan-African Information and Documentation System (PADIS), which should be provided with adequate financial resources;

4. Further requests the Executive Secretary to ascertain that the implementation of all subprogrammes contained in the work programme of the Commission is solidly based on the full attainment of the identified basic indicators of achievement of the objectives of ECA, namely, strengthening the advisory role of ECA on socio-economic questions; promoting regional cooperation and integration; enhancing the efficiency of the public sector; promoting of private initiatives and entrepreneurship; development, dissemination and utilization of science and technology; ensuring a desirable balance between food supply, population, human settlements and environment; fostering human-centred development; achieving structural transformation and diversification of African economies; and promotion of women in development;

5. Welcomes the process of frequent and close consultations of the secretariat with the member States and donors through the regular briefing sessions, including with their representatives at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;

6. Recommends the establishment, within existing resources, of a consultative mechanism that would advise the Executive Secretary on the grouping of conferences along specific themes, including scheduling and the preparation of conferences, meetings, seminars and workshops, taking into account the need to harmonize them with those of the Organization of African Unity and the African Development Bank to avoid duplication and achieve greater efficiency;

7. Urges the Executive Secretary of ECA to explore all possibilities to establish or strengthen the relationships of the Commission with African intergovernmental organizations, the United Nations specialized agencies, bilateral and multilateral development cooperation agencies and non-governmental organizations, including, in particular, the possibility of establishing joint units or special programmes with the different United Nations specialized agencies, and the creation of a special unit within the ECA secretariat to coordinate the increased joint activities of ECA with non-governmental organizations;

8. Expresses appreciation to the General Assembly for providing additional resources to the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) and, consequently, recommends that in conformity with ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 702 (XXV) on transforming and strengthening the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres of the Economic Commission for Africa, the MULPOCs should be further strengthened through redeployment of resources and be given specific assignments with respect to technical assistance and advisory services for the execution of joint projects of member States within the framework of the intergovernmental organizations, in their respective subregions, and they should be enabled to act as the major subregional focal points to collect and disseminate information on all aspects of economic cooperation and integration;

9. Also expresses its gratitude to the General Assembly for providing the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) four additional posts for the 1992-1993 biennium thus enabling IDEP to contribute to the process of strengthening the operational capacity of ECA in meeting the challenges facing Africa in the 1990s, and requests the redeployment of resources which would enable IDEP to assume additional responsibility;

10. Requests the Executive Secretary, in close cooperation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, to undertake a thorough examination of the problems and constraints facing the ECA-sponsored institutions and subsequently make concrete proposals aimed at alleviating the different problems and consider alternative solutions such as merging some of the institutions;

11. Appeals to bilateral and multilateral donors to increase their financial and other forms of assistance to ECA to enable it to shoulder its responsibilities to the member States in the form of extrabudgetary operational activities;

12. Requests the Executive Secretary to undertake, as may become necessary, reforms in the structure of the secretariat so as to achieve full consistency with the new orientations recommended herein and attain greater efficiency and increased capacity for the secretariat to serve as a veritable effective organ for the economic and social development of Africa;

13. Requests the Executive Secretary to report on the progress of implementation of the present resolution to the nineteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers and twenty-eighth session of the Commission.

DRAFT RESOLUTION X

Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields: strengthening the role and functions of the Economic Commission for Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the terms of reference of the Commission as adopted by resolution 671 (XXV) of the Economic and Social Council of 29 April 1958 and amended by resolution 974 D.I (XXXVI) of July 1963, resolution 1343 (XLV) of 18 July 1968 and resolution 1978/68 of 4 August 1978,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council decision to endorse the ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 718 (XXVI) on the revitalization of the mandate and operational framework of the regional commission for Africa,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolutions 45/177, 45/264 and 46/235 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, in which the regional commissions should be enabled fully to play their role under the authority of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and those located in developing countries should be strengthened in the context of the overall objectives of the ongoing restructuring and the revitalization process,

Convinced that the Economic Commission for Africa plays a vital catalytic role in the coordination and execution of intercountry programmes and projects aimed at strengthening regional cooperation and integration, especially by fostering the goals of the African Economic Community,

1. Reaffirms the continuing validity of the role of regional economic commissions as important organs of the United Nations for promoting the socio-economic development of their respective regions;

2. Appeals to the Secretary-General that in the context of the ongoing restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields, due recognition is accorded to the vital role of the regional commissions.

43. The Economic Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

DRAFT DECISION I

Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002

The Economic and Social Council decides to endorse resolution 48/3, entitled "Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002", adopted by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

DRAFT DECISION II

Restructuring the conference structure of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council decides to approve resolution 48/2, entitled "Restructuring the conference structure of the Commission", adopted by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, which should be implemented in conformity with the administrative, financial and programme planning regulations and rules of the United Nations.

DRAFT DECISION III

Venue of the twenty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

The Economic and Social Council decides that the twenty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean should be held at Cartagena, Colombia, in 1994.

DRAFT DECISION IV

Venue of the twenty-eighth session of the Economic Commission for Africa and the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council decides that the twenty-eighth session of the Economic Commission for Africa and the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of the Commission should be held at Lusaka in April 1993.

DRAFT DECISION V

Industrial development in Africa

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the draft decision entitled "Industrial development in Africa" adopted by the Economic Commission for Africa.

DRAFT DECISION VI

Implementation of the United Nations Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

The Economic and Social Council, taking note of the report of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole on the progress report on the implementation of the United Nations Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa:

(a) Urges member States to establish national coordination committees and revitalize their operation where they exist;

(b) Affirms its resolution 1991/83 of 26 July 1991, by which it invited the General Assembly to provide the Economic Commission for Africa with the necessary regular budgetary resources to enable it to carry out its responsibilities as the lead agency for the second Decade effectively and efficiently.

DRAFT DECISION VII

Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of regional cooperation

The Economic and Social Council decides to take note of the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (E/1992/14 and Add.1 (Parts I and II);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Second report on the cost-benefit of office accommodation at ECLAC, Port of Spain (Trinidad and Tobago)" and the Secretary-General's comments thereon (E/1992/21 and Add.1).

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994 (E/1992/61 and Add.1);

(d) Letter dated 2 July 1992 from the Chairman of the Economic Commission for Europe to the President of the Economic and Social Council (E/1992/101 and Corr.1).